

EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL
Minutes
April 6, 2004

The regular meeting of the Edgefield County Council was held at 6:00 P. M. Tuesday, April 6, 2004, in the County Council Chambers, 225 Jeter St., Edgefield. Chairman Kneece called the meeting to order and Councilman Hudson gave the invocation. After the invocation, the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited.

Members present

C. Monroe Kneece, Chairman
Willie C. Bright, Vice Chairman
Norman Dorn, Councilman
Joel D. Hudson, Councilman
B. Everette Kitchens, Councilman

Others present

Wayne Adams, Administrator
John Byrd, County Attorney
Barbara Stark, Clerk to Council

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Motion was made by Councilman Dorn, seconded by Councilman Bright, to approve the March 2, 2004, Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Edgefield County Council. Motion carried.

Reports

Councilman Dorn asked for some discussion on Report Number 3 concerning replanting of county property located on Highway 25 north of Edgefield, after a timber harvest. Chairman Kneece stated that Mr. Gillespie with Gillespie & Associates stated in his correspondence dated March 11th, that 25 to 30 acres will need to be replanted. The estimated for this should not exceed \$6,000.00. Mr. Adams said this number will be finalized after the harvest when the exact acreage can be determined.

Public Hearing

At this time, a Public Hearing was held to receive written and/or oral comments on Ordinance No. 03-04-444, "An Ordinance Amending the Edgefield County Zoning Map to Change the Zoning Designation of Tax map #14400-00-021 from General Agricultural Development (GD) to Industrial Development (ID)."

The Edgefield County Council has received a request from the Edgefield County Planning Commission to change the zoning designation of tax map #144-00-00-021 from General Agricultural Development (GD) to Industrial Development (ID). The parcel of land is located south of Edgefield on Hwy. 25 at the corner of Brighthop Road and Hwy.25 below the Bondex Plant. There were no comments, written or oral. Motion was made by Councilman Kitchens, seconded by Councilman Dorn, to approve first reading of Ordinance No. 03-04-444, "An Ordinance Amending the Edgefield County Zoning

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Map to Change the Zoning Designation of Tax map #144-00-00-021 from General Agricultural Development (GD) to Industrial Development (ID).” Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilman Bright, seconded by Councilman Hudson, to approve first reading of Ordinance No. 03-04-445, “An Ordinance Providing for the FY 04-05 Edgefield County General Operating Budget.” Motion carried unanimously.

Resolutions

Motion was made by Councilman Dorn, seconded by Councilman Bright, to approve Resolution No. 03-04-264, “A Resolution Designating April 2004 as Fair Housing Month.” Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilman Bright, seconded by Councilman Hudson, to approve Resolution No. 03-04-265, “A Resolution Adopting Edgefield County’s Americans with Disabilities Act/504 Plans.” Motion carried unanimously.

New Business

Mr. Michael Firmin with the Golden Harvest Food Bank addressed council concerning funding by the county. Mr. Firmin stated that the “Golden Harvest Food Bank has distributed food in Edgefield County to various non-profits and churches since 1988. In the last fiscal year we have reached a total of 118,947 pounds of food – a value of \$198,241. This food has been picked up from the Aiken distributing center or the Food Bank has delivered it. Instead of relying strictly on donated foods the Food Bank has to purchase food. County funding would be used to access food and pay for some freight bills but also to purchase staple items. The funds would enable us to keep up and hopefully expand the level of service that we currently provide to the needy in Edgefield County.”

Council received two funding requests: one from the Civic League/Courtesy Center for its fourth quarter payment of \$4,000.00 and a request from the American Legion Baseball (no amount). Motion was made by Councilman Hudson, seconded by Councilman Kitchens, to approve the fourth quarter payment to the Civic League/Courtesy Center. Motion carried unanimously. Concerning the American Legion Baseball request, Chairman Kneece stated the Council was not taking any new requests for funding.

Howard Gibson gave an update on each of the following items:

FEMA: FEMA funding for the ice emergency has been finalized. Everything has been signed and the county will be receiving a little over \$41,000 for the ice clean-up and three percent administrative on top of that. We were fortunate enough that the Northside Fire Department had a lot of volunteer labor and equipment and that covered the 12 ½% that we would have had to foot as match funding. That is being processed and hopefully by the end of the month we will have received the funds.

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Fox Terrace: I have followed up on this. Haas and Hilderbrand (Engineering Firm) is looking into this to see if anything can be worked out in a feasible manner. I have not received the report.

Trash (Corner of McCain & Murrah Roads): Sarah Daniels (DHEC), Deputy Miller, and I went down and went through the garbage for a few hours and found six names. The administrative portion of DHEC has decided to forward the information to criminal investigation in Columbia to be handled by that department.

Next, Howard Gibson discussed bids received for the annual air conditioning/heat maintenance contract for county buildings. He stated that Holsenback Service, Inc. of Johnston had the contract for this year. Mr. Gibson said packages had been mailed out to all local contractors and to ones getting permits through the Building Department. Only two companies turned in quotes. Holsenback has given good service; Mr. Gibson felt that service would continue. "When they took, over five units in the courthouse were found that had never been serviced. We were not receiving good service from the other company." Motion was made by Councilman Hudson, seconded by Councilman Bright, to award the bid for the annual air conditioning/heat maintenance contract to Holsenback Service, Inc. of Johnston for \$2,485.50. Motion carried unanimously.

The request for a \$750 contribution to National Fire Safety Council, Inc. is a budgeted item so no action was needed.

No old business.

Guests

Rev. William Cue, New and Living Way Church, Hwy.19, addressed Council concerning funding. About a year ago, the county road department cleared an area for the church for a baseball field. Rev. Cue asked council for its help in building a road from the church back to property where the church would like to build transitional housing. This would be along the property line of the church and Tommy Glover. After council learned that Mr. Glover would be selling property to individuals to build homes on, the Chairman stated that the council does not build roads to facilitate private housing developments.

Rev. Cue said he may be back to Council concerning installing lights on the baseball field. A company is working with the church for a \$10,000 grant to get the lights. He said he felt there would be something maybe the county could help out with the lights. Mr. Kneece said since SCE&G services that area maybe SCANA could assist and Rev. Cue asked Mr. Kneece if he could send the church some information on that. Mr. Kneece said the council would look into it.

Mr. John Pettigrew, Jr. spoke. He said he attended the Edgefield Town Council meeting the night before and a discussion continued concerning the proposed seizing of the old

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Advertiser building by “eminent domain” and the construction of a theater. Mr. Pettigrew said “I don’t know if the county council has been briefed or not on that project, but it was mentioned on several occasions that they were hopeful to receive funding from the county as well as the school board. My concern for the community is about the liability of that project and the way it has been handled, and I just ask that council proceed with caution if you all are approached about the opera house/theater. There are just a lot of unanswered questions and a lot of issues, including the fact that the town council decided to hold up for sixty (60) days before they go forward with the “eminent domain” issue to give the property owners a chance to better present their case and their plans for the building. The Chairman told Mr. Pettigrew that county council has not been contacted about this.

No executive session.

Claims approved as follows:

- A. PAYROLL: 03/01/04 thru 03/14/04
- Regular.....\$107,436.32
- PAYROLL: 03/15/04 thru 03/28/04
- Regular.....\$107,842.03
- B. GENERAL OPERATING.....\$499,439.09

There being no further business, Councilman Dorn made the motion to adjourn. Motion seconded by Councilman Hudson. The next regular meeting of Council is scheduled for Tuesday, May 4, 2004.

C. Monroe Kneece, Chairman

Willie C. Bright, Vice Chairman

Norman Dorn, Councilman

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ATTEST

Barbara R. Stark, Clerk to Council

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